

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY

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UP-TOWN OFFICE, BROAD-STREET PHARMACY, 519 EAST BROAD STREET. WEST-END OFFICE, PARK-PLACE PHARMACY, BELVIDERE AND MAIN STREETS. MANCHESTER OFFICE, 1213 HULL STREET.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1897.

THIS PAPER RECEIVES THE COMBINED TELEGRAPHIC-NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN ASSOCIATED PRESS, THE UNITED PRESS, THE WESTERN ASSOCIATED PRESS, THE NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATED PRESS, AND THE ASSOCIATED PRESS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

LOU PAIN.

This sporty New Yorker is victorious. A great battle has been fought around him, and he has "downed" his enemies.

Our people are not so well acquainted with the name of Pain as they are with that of Corbett or Fitzsimmons, or those of the chief base-ball players; but, for all that, Pain is a famous man. His distinction was won at Albany, where he plied his business as a lobbyist, and where he was well-known to legislators, and to such persons as wished to trade with the legislators.

It is on record, we believe, that Lou Pain once admitted upon examination that he was a lobbyist. He was not only a lobbyist, but he was, and is, an "all-round sport." More—he is a successful politician of the Tom Platt faction, and through his connection with that all-powerful New York boss, has just succeeded in capturing the office of Insurance Commissioner of that State.

When it was first suggested that Tom Platt would cause Governor Black to nominate Lou Pain as Insurance Commissioner, a mighty chorus of groans and yells of derision went up from the New York press. And from that time to this the ablest and best of the New York papers, without distinction of party, have fought bitterly against the appointment. But all in vain. Useless was their presentation of the unsavory record of Pain. Futility the proof they presented that Pain was incapable of filling the place. Platt's decree had to be executed. Governor Black bowed to the mandate from the State headquarters, and thus at one stroke separated himself from the anti-Platt faction, which had theretofore looked upon him with toleration, at least. Black saw that he was bound to offend one side or the other, and he chose, rather, to serve Platt than the more respectable element of his party. In due season, also, the nomination was ratified by the State Senate—but not without a bitter fight. And now the Hon. Thomas Platt knows that he is not only the senator-elect to succeed Dave Hill, but is also the absolute boss of the executive and legislative departments at Albany.

So it is that Mr. Platt to-day wields a power second only to that of the President of the United States. Indeed, in some respects, he is a mightier man than the President. The President cannot control Federal legislation. But Mr. Platt and his coteries can say absolutely which bills shall and which shall not become laws in the State of New York. Great cities and great private corporations alike have to go to him for permission to get any legislation that they may need.

This is no fiction; it is a fact—a fact discreditable to the Empire State, and one which goes to show that it has not a real republican form of government.

However, we must do our friends, the enemy, the Republicans of the State of New York, the justice to say that they are unceasing in their opposition to Platt bossism. They have on their side the most influential organs of public opinion in New York, and have some other very active and capable leaders. By holding up to public gaze the odious personality of Lou Pain, they may hope to bring Platt and Black to terms. But it all depends upon what McKinley will do. He may use his patronage against Platt—but we doubt if he will.

Major McKinley may be disposed to kick against the pricks at first, but if he does, Platt may organize the United States Senate against him! What with "senatorial courtesy," and what with Platt's transcendent genius as an organizer, we do not expect that McKinley will be able to "call him down" easily.

The unappealable opposition of so many Republicans to the rule of Platt, Black, and Lou Pain would give the Democrats of the Empire State a fine opportunity to walk in and relieve the people; but, alas, our party in the Empire State is almost a wreck. It can accomplish nothing until it is reunited.

We have a golden opportunity there, but we have not the strength to grasp it.

COME TO BOOK.

We desire to say to our friend, the Roanoke World, that it does injustice to the Dispatch in charging us with "emphasizing the probable cost of a constitutional convention," and with originating the idea that the Legislature might be called into extra session to provide for the election of delegates to the convention.

We do not recall that we have ever made an estimate as to the cost of holding such a convention. No doubt some of our correspondents have stated that a convention would cost this or that sum; but we do not hold ourselves responsible for their estimates. If the chief work that is expected of a convention were determined by public opinion before the convention met, the cost ought not to exceed that of a regular session of the General Assembly. But if a convention should be held before there is any very definite idea as to what it is expected to do, its session would be much longer, and would, of course, cost more. The only argument that we have used against voting for a convention now, is that owing to the disturbed condition of parties in Virginia we might get a very different sort of convention from that which we should like to have.

Now, as to the extra session matter: The first mention we have seen of this was in a letter to the Dispatch from J. C. Parker, Esq., of Southampton county, published on January 15th. He is a gentleman of prominence in his section of the State, and is an able and ardent advocate of voting in favor of a convention now. We quote him as follows, and by so doing, hope to remove the impression of the World that the extra session suggestion did not come from a friendly quarter:

"If a convention be ordered in May, the present Legislature could, and probably would, be called together in extra session, to provide for holding the convention, and to direct the State for election of the members of the convention. Then have the election for members of the convention about the first of May, 1898, and if the Democrats could not elect a majority of its members at that time, then I do not believe it will ever elect a majority. The Democrats of the State are looking to the Democratic party for relief from the evil of the Underwood Constitution."

OUR CAPITOL.

The Pennsylvania State House, which was destroyed by fire on Tuesday, was about three-quarters of a century old, and was an antiquated affair, though great sums of money had been spent upon it to adapt it to the State's uses. Still it was very dear to the people, many of whom shed tears of sorrow when its walls fell in.

We may expect our Virginia Capitol to share a like fate some day, unless the Legislature provides for fire-proofing it.

The foundations of our State Capitol were laid in 1785, before the Federal Constitution had been adopted, and it is, therefore, by long odds the oldest building of the sort in the United States. Not only this, but it has been the scene of some of the most exciting legislative events in our country's history, including those incident to the sessions of the Confederate Congress.

We wish our Legislature would arrange to fire-proof the Capitol. It might be done year by year, as the Legislature could find the money to do it. The building has been on fire more than a dozen times, and nothing but constant watching has kept it from destruction. By the substitution of the present girders, beams, and roof-timbers with iron-work, the old building could be preserved for ages to come. Thus, we should avoid the expense to which Pennsylvania is now to be subjected, and thus, also, we could preserve to posterity one of the buildings of this country that are richest in historical associations.

AUSTRIA AND TURKEY.

The rumor that Austria-Hungary is anxious to form a combination with Great Britain and Italy, to secure reforms in Turkey, and advocates using force to that end, if necessary, may not be altogether a rumor. Such a combination, backed by Germany, or with Germany neutral, would put Russia entirely out of the deal, as the interests of the latter and those of Austria-Hungary respecting Turkey are diametrically opposed. There is no common ground on which they could meet touching the matter. The combination in question would be calculated to aid Austria immensely in carrying out a Turkish policy she has cherished for over a hundred years, and would be a concession to Magyar hatred of Russia.

Apart from this, however, Austria understands better than any of the other great Powers of Europe the art of managing and pacifying peoples of such diverse races and creeds as inhabit some of the Turkish provinces. Again, she has no ambition respecting Turkish territory, the realization of which would menace British interests in that quarter. She does not covet Constantinople, and to put her in possession of the spoils she would most likely ask would have in various ways the effect of strengthening the British hold on the Bosphorus, and safeguarding British and Italian interests in the Mediterranean.

The main thing that Ambassador Bayard said to the Prince of Wales, at the banquet of the former to the latter last night, was probably more or less like the traditional remark of the Governor of North Carolina to the Governor of South Carolina. Still, the banquet afore-said was not without its significance, or without international importance.

The Norfolk Virginian agrees with the Lynchburg News that Richmond is the proper place for the greater Confederate memorial, the location of which is to be discussed at the coming annual reunion of the United Confederate Veterans.

The Hon. Lyman J. Gage is confronted with the disagreeable fact since he announced his purpose to accept office under McKinley, that he wrote a letter to Governor Altgeld, recommending him to pardon the Anarchist prisoners.

It is announced, on what is said to be the highest authority, that the New York police commissioners have decided to acquit Captain Chapman of all blame in the matter of the raiding of the Seely dinner.

The coming Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Gage, is said to be a Spiritualist, and this disturbs some people, since seance does not rhyme with finance.

THE PRACTICAL QUESTION.

Comptroller-of-the-Currency Eckels is quoted as having said in the House Committee on Banking and Currency Tuesday that he agreed with Mr. Walker, the chairman of the committee, "in the statement that under the present law the United States had the most expensive currency system of any first-class nation." The system, added Mr. Walker, was the result of immediate necessities springing from the late war.

Precisely. Mr. Eckels and Mr. Walker unite in a proposition, the truth of which has been sadly apparent to the masses for years, and which is especially emphasized by present conditions throughout the country. Particularly expensive to the general public and the general business interests of the country has been, and is, the existing system—a system which Mr. Walker and Mr. Eckels virtually criticize as entitled no longer to any standing in the great financial courts of the world. And now the practical, pointed, and probing question is, What are Mr. Walker and his committee and Congress going to do about it? Nothing, we fear, unless the people and the business organizations take Mr. Walker's advice, given in his address in this city, and determine to allow congressmen no rest until currency reform is an accomplished fact.

Wants the Truth.

(Lynchburg Advance.) If it were allowable to derive satisfaction from the pains and pangs of our would-be enemies, the people of the South might enjoy real pleasure from the harsh criticisms of the northern press upon the school histories written by southern pens, and published by southern presses, and introduced into the public and private schools of the South. Perhaps we ought not to show any feeling of elation, but how can we suppress it? It is the day-dawn of deliverance from the false teachings that have so distorted the veracious history of our country. We do not desire to have southern histories inculcate southern ideas, as contradistinguished from northern ideas, but we desire to see histories that will tell the true tale of our common country, from the landing at Jamestown and Plymouth Rock, to this, the closing decade of the nineteenth century.

Ought to Control It.

(Norfolk Landmark.) Whatever be true of the Nicaragua canal bill in its present shape, the United States Government ought to have control of the waterway, which is sure to be built somewhere across the isthmus. That is the whole thing in a nutshell. There are, of course, many engineering difficulties in the path of the canal, but the committee sent to the spot by the Government to look into the matter, though more troublesome than represented by the Maritime Canal Company, is certainly not impracticable. We regret, therefore, that the existing complications should have arisen.

Shy, But Good.

(Chicago Times-Herald.) Senator Lodge's attempt to abolish our esteemed contemporary, the Congressional Record, has deservedly come to naught. The Record is a true shy on live news, and its staff of contributors might easily be improved; but, aside from this, it is a good family paper, and is well worth the price of subscription.

Plain Talk.

(Providence Journal.) If our Senate refuses to ratify the arbitration treaty, there will presently be as much talk in this country about mending or ending that body as there has been in England about the same sometimes when the latter have steadily blocked some important and popular measure.

An Innovation.

A Scotch clergyman in Melbourne, Australia, they say, has arranged his male choristers in Highland dress, while the women are attired in the costumes of the "Lady of the Lake." The hymns are sung to the strains of the bagpipes, and the church is crowded.

You Bet She Was Mad.

(Boston Transcript.) "Hello!" exclaimed Tommy; "there goes one of them horseless carriages!" "Where?" shouted Aunt Maria, rushing to the window. "Why, right 'cross the way, away; don't you see that it is drawn by mules?"

Life's Secret.

(For the Dispatch.) Alone I sat and looked Life in the face, As broke the wave in thunderous monotone. Of blasted hope, I wished no friend. Alone The Spahn-like vision made of Time and Place. That met called Life, I sought to solve; To trace Angel or demon; to make, forsooth, mine own One secret from the realms of the Unknown— The reason of this being here in space.

Long sat I thus, till dark fell on the deep And boatman's smart came tolling o'er the foam. To get that kept his heart upon the shore; I heeded mother's lullaby of sleep. In tender note came, from the fever-wracked home, "Oh, Life is Love, Love, forevermore!" WILLIAM THORNTON WHITSETT.

Mothers

Anxiously watch declining health of their daughters. So many are cut off by consumption in early years that there is real cause for anxiety. In the early stages, when not beyond the reach of medicine, Hood's Sarsaparilla will restore the quality and quantity of the blood and thus give good health. Read the following letter:

"It is but just to write about my daughter Cora, aged 19. She was completely run down, declining, had that tired feeling, and friends said she would not live over three months. She had a bad

Cough

and nothing seemed to do her any good. I happened to read about Hood's Sarsaparilla and had her give it a trial. From the very first dose she began to get better. After taking a few bottles she was completely cured and her health has been the best ever since." Mrs. ADDIE PECK, 12 Railroad Place, Amsterdam, N. Y.

"I will say that my mother has not stated my case in as strong words as I would have said. Hood's Sarsaparilla has truly cured me and I am now well." CORA PECK, Amsterdam, N. Y. Be sure to get Hood's, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. It is purely vegetable, and beneficial. Hood's Pills liable and beneficial. 25c.

The Fourquaren-Price Company.

Our Advance Opening of New Spring Goods

is the most elaborate display of choice and handsome effects we have ever shown so early in the season.

FRENCH ORGANDIES in new and choice designs—our own importation.

ORGANDIE ALIXE, 37½c. yard. Gulpure Lattice, a new fabric, fine and sheer, beautiful effects.

12½c. Gulpure Lattice, a new fabric, fine and sheer, beautiful effects.

12½c. Madras Lace—another spring fabric—very sheer, and beautiful effects, and return premiums.

12½c. Tamsie Grenadine—a black grenadine, ground with floral designs.

12½c. Gold and Silver Satens—blue, black, green, and brown grounds—with gold and silver figures.

25c. Canvas Cloths, in brown, green, and blue.

12½c. Percales and Cambrics—the old favorite in new figures and designs.

12½c. Masquerade Cloths—the new fabric for evening wear—pink, Nile, heliotrope, light-blue, canary, and white.

12½c. Wool Dress Goods.

The new Checks in brown and white, blue and white, and black and white—all-wool herring-bone Chevots—all-wool invisible checks. Compare them with the goods you have been paying 50c. for, and see these at.

25c. yard. All-Wool Fancy Silk and Wool Chevots, in patterns the equal of any 3 goods.

50c. French Biege Suitings, in the new spring colorings.

65c. Scotch Plaids—the new novelty for skirts.

82c. yard. Suit patterns—in the new latest effects.

\$12.50 each. Silks.

The new Figured Surah Silks for spring—the coming Silk for popular favor.

50c. 27-inch Figured Japanese Silk, in the new spring designs.

75c. Embroideries.

All the new patterns are now ready—beautiful than ever, and lower in price.

THE GREAT CLEARING SALE

still continues in the

HOUSEWARE DEPARTMENT.

Special prices for to-day:

Wedgewood Decorated Best Quality Semi-Porcelain Dinner Sets, containing 15 pieces, cheap at \$20; clearing-sale price, \$7.50.

50 Toilet Sets, hand-decorated, containing 10 pieces; worthy \$5; for \$1.98.

BEST QUALITY STEEL SALT-IRONS, WORTH REGULARLY 20c. FOR 9c.

Can-Openers (will do the work of a 25c. one), 1c.

45c. BROOMS, 15c.

100 DOZEN BEST QUALITY FOUR-AND-THREE-STRING BROOMS, MADE OF FINEST SELECTED CORN; WORTH UP TO 45c.; CHOICE, 15c.

Large-Size Granite Teakettles, clearing-price, 8c.

1c. for the Genuine Surprise Egg-Beaters.

IMPORTED CHINA DINNER AND SOUP-PLATES, FINEST EDGE, AND WORTH \$2.50 A DOZEN; CLEARING-SALE PRICE, PER SET OF SIX, 50c.

Imported Teapots, and Saucers to match. Haviland shape, a set of six of each, for 8c.; worth \$2.50 a dozen.

Choice Jelly-Cake and Pie-Pans, 1c.

THE FOURQUAREN-PRICE CO.

A BIG ENTERPRISE.

To Utilize Water-Power in West Virginia.

HINTON, W. VA., February 2.—(Special.)—The long-talked-of project looking to the placing of an immense electric-power house at Kanawha Falls for the supplying of electricity to the mines of the New River and Kanawha Valley coal-fields is assuming substantial shape. Contracts were let during the past week to Gentry & Volk, of Staunton, Va., for the excavation and foundation work necessary to the establishment of such a plant, and it is understood that work will be commenced at once. The contract also calls for the building of two immense dams across the river—one at New River falls, six miles below this city, and the other at the falls of the Big Kanawha, below the junction of the Gauley and New rivers, which form the Kanawha.

The contracts were let by J. Turner Moorehead, a prominent North Carolina manufacturer, who is interested largely in the steelworks at Spray, N. C., and who represents a syndicate that has recently acquired the power-rights at both the above-mentioned points. At each of the dams a powerhouse will be located, the electricity to be generated by the immense water-power at hand, and distributed through the separate coal-fields by underground cables. In addition to the electric-power works the syndicate will erect plants for coke-making and the utilization of the by-products from the coal.

AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 5TH, 6TH.

CHARLES A. GARDNER, Prince of Grand Comedians, in his Two Grand Comedies, "FATHERLAND" AND "KARL, THE FIEDLER."

Doors open 7:30; commence at 8:30.

ROSEMARY PUBLIC LIBRARY.

SUBSCRIBE TO ROSEMARY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 231 east Main street. Best and latest books and magazines circulating. Three dollars yearly. de 20-3m

PERSONAL.

MRS. M. FUSON INVITES LADIES INTERESTED IN Dress to call at Ford's Hotel, Orders taken from sample, also, the use of Featherbone Taught.

INSURANCE STATEMENTS.

(PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.)

UNITED STATES FIDELITY AND GUARANTY COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, A. D. 1896, ON THE CONDITION OF THE UNITED STATES FIDELITY AND GUARANTY COMPANY, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, MADE TO THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA, PURSUANT TO THE LAWS OF SAID STATE.

President—FRANK BROWN. Vice-President and General Manager—JOHN R. BLAND. Secretary—ALEXANDER PAYSON KNAPP.

Commenced Business—AUGUST 1, 1896. Principal Office—SOUTHWEST CORNER CALVERT AND GERMAN STREETS, BALTIMORE, MD.

Amount of capital stock paid up in cash. \$200,000.00

Amount of capital subscribed, but unpaid. 27,000.00

Extended at. \$227,000.00

II.—INCOME DURING YEAR 1896.

Fidelity. Surety.

Gross premiums on risks written and renewed during the year. \$5,218.55 \$1,731.12

Total. \$5,218.55 \$1,731.12

Deduct gross premiums in course of collection at this date. \$2,903.40 \$829.00

Entire premiums collected during the year. 2,315.15 902.12

Deduct reinsurance, abatement, rebate, and return premiums. 187.46

Net cash actually received for premiums. 2,127.69 902.12

Interest on loans and mortgages. 2,791.50 3,550.00

Interest on collateral loans and bank balances. 2,791.50 3,550.00

Total interest. \$4,000.00

Income from all other sources—viz., 9,802.20 22,802.30

Deposits subject to check. \$20,000.00

TOTAL INCOME ACTUALLY RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR IN CASH. \$29,802.80

II.—DISBURSEMENTS DURING THE YEAR.

For commissions to agents. \$168.00

For salaries, travelling and all expenses of agents and agencies, not on commission account. 695.02

For salaries and all other compensation of officers, \$2,300; and home office employees, \$1,833.25. 4,133.25

Insurance Department due to \$1,833.25. 1,833.25

Agents' licenses. 1,827.73

For legal expenses, \$1,627.73. 1,627.73

For advertising, \$800.00; and general printing and stationery, \$1,763.00. 2,563.00

All other expenses. 1,575.25

Total miscellaneous expenses. 12,961.82

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS. \$29,802.80

Balance invested in the following assets:

III.—ASSETS.

Loans on mortgage (first liens) on real estate. \$603.80

Loans secured by pledge of bonds, stocks, or other marketable collateral. 63,400.00

Loans on mortgage (second liens) on real estate. 197,997.50

Cost value of bonds and stocks owned absolutely. 10,450.00

Cash amounting to the company's stock owned. 12,231.18

Cash deposited in banks. 138.54

Bills receivable. 4,054.92

All other items—viz., furniture and fixtures. 4,054.92

TOTAL NET LEDGER ASSETS. \$279,052.79

Interest accrued, \$100, on bonds and stocks. \$109.00

Interest due, \$85.40, on collateral loans. 85.40